

Message Text

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ORIGIN CG-00

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: SENV, UR

SUBJ: US- USSR ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT, POLLUTION IN THE
MARINE ENVIRONMENT

1. REQUEST EMBASSY TRANSMIT FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO V. DUBCHAK,
CHIEF, TECHNICAL ADMINISTRATION, MINISTRY OF THE MERCHANT
MARINE OF THE USSR:

2. " DEAR MR. DUBCHAK: THANK YOU FOR YOUR EARLY REPLY TO
MY INITIAL LETTER. I AM PLEASED THAT YOU ARE AGREEABLE
TO THE PROGRAM WHICH WE HAVE DEVELOPED AND I CONCUR WITH
YOUR DELETION OF SAN FRANCISCO.

3. SINCE WRITING TO YOU LAST, A CONFLICT HAS DEVELOPED
WITH THE PROPOSED DATE FOR YOUR ARRIVAL. CONSEQUENTLY, WE
REQUEST THAT YOU DELAY YOUR ARRIVAL UNTIL 14 MAY 1973.
YOUR REQUEST FOR A TWO WEEK STAY IS QUITE AGREEABLE TO US.
UNFORTUNATELY, WE WILL BE UNABLE TO UNDERTAKE THE COOPERA-
TIVE PROGRAM WITHOUT AN EXCHANGE OF CURRENCY. OUR
STATUTORY LIMITATIONS PRECLUDE US FROM FUNDING YOUR STAY
IN THE UNITED STATES. IN ORDER TO AMELIORATE THIS
SITUATION WE WILL BE PROVIDING A COAST GUARD AIRCRAFT
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FOR TRAVEL WITHIN THE U. S., AND HOUSING, TO THE GREATEST EXTENT POSSIBLE, FOR YOURSELF AND YOUR DELEGATION.

4. AS YOU KNOW, WE ARE INVITING DR. A. K. KARAEV OF THE MINISTRY OF THE PETROLEUM INDUSTRY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE INITIAL COMBINED MEETING IN NEW LONDON. YOU MAY WISH TO CONTACT HIM TO COORDINATE YOUR LIC RATHER THAN SUBSTANTIVE NEGOTIATING

PRODUCT" -- I. E. FREE OF COLLATERAL CONSTRAINTS AND, UNBALANCED, TO THE SOVIET ADVANTAGE. IT IS ROTH'S FRANK VIEW THAT SUCH A "QUICK FIX" WILL WHET GERMAN BUNDESTAG AND PUBLIC APPETITES FOR BUNDESWEHR CUTS, WILL DO THE SAME IN OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, WILL BE DETERMENTAL TO VITAL WEST EUROPEAN SECURITY INTERESTS AND ATLANTIC SOLIDARITY, AND IS MORE LIKELY FURTHER TO STIMULATE THAN SATIATE MANSFIELD FORCES IN THE US SENATE. IN ROTH'S VIEW, THE FACTOR OF TIMING IS THEREFORE LIKELY TO REMAIN A PREDOMINANT GERMAN AND WEST EUROPEAN CONCERN THROUGHOUT THE MBFR ENTERPRISE.

8. TIMETABLE: FOR THE ABOVE REASONS, ROTH WAS RATHER DISCONCERTED BY THE RATHER STARKLY VARIANT ASSESSMENTS IN WASHINGTON OF CURRENT TIME PRESSURES. DEFENSE OFFICIALS THOUGHT CONSTRAINTS MUST ACCOMPANY ANY REDUCTIONS AGREEMENT AND STRONGLY FAVORED A FLEXIBLE PHASING CONCEPT. OTHERS LAMENTED THAT NEGOTIATION OF SUCH ADMITTEDLY USEFUL MEASURES MIGHT BE UNFEASIBLE DURING MBFR- I DUE TO URGENT CONGRESSIONAL PRESSURES. STILL OTHER US REPS THOUGHT AN EARLY SUCCESSFUL END TO THE VIENNA MIT AND CERTAIN ENGAGEMENT OF THE NEGOTIATIONS IN SEPT/OCT WOULD TEND TO CALM PRESENTLY RIPPLING CONGRESSIONAL WATERS.

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9. INITIAL ALLIANCE POLICY PAPERS: ROTH SAID THERE ALSO WAS DISAGREEMENT ON WHETHER THE FIRST (1973) NEGOTIATING ROUND OF MBFR- I SHOULD (AS THE FRG PREFERS) BE LIMITED TO SUBSTANTIVE EXPLORATIONS OF SOVIET POSITIONS, WITH INITIAL WESTERN POSITIONS BEING TABLED IN THE SPRING OF 1974. SOME US REPS THOUGHT DOMESTIC PRESSURES WOULD REQUIRE THAT INITIAL WESTERN POSITIONS BE TABLED AT THE END OF THE

1973 ROUND TO DEMONSTRATE " PROGRESS" AND " GOOD FAITH" TO GHE CONGRESS. ROTH'S MAIN CONCERN IS THAT THE ALLIES MUST HAVE SUFFICIENT TIME TO DEVELOP COMMON POSITIONS; HE STRESSED THAT ANOTHER FRACTIOUS ALLIED DEBATE DURING EAST/ WEST TALKS MUST BE AVOIDED; HE ALSO NOTED FREQUENT BENELUX REMARKS IN THE NAC THAT THE US SHOULD NOT PRESENT ITS PARTNERS WITH A FAIT ACCOMPLI. WITH THE NEXT US PAPER DUE IN APRIL, ROTH SAID HE CONSIDERS IT ESSENTIAL THAT THE JUNE NATO MINISTERIAL APPROVE A " SHORT POLICY PAPER" ON A BASIC APPROACH TO MBFR- I, WHICH HE EXPECTS TO LAST INTO 1974. THE ALLIES THEN COULD CONSULT ON CONCRETE ISSUES THROUGHOUT THIS SUMMER, FALL (AND THE FRG HOPES WINTER/ SPRING) BEFORE TABLING INITIAL ALLIED POSITION PAPERS. DURING THAT ALLIED PREPARATORY PHASE, ROTH HOPES A US/ UK/ FRG DIVISION OF LABOR MIGHT BE HELPFUL.

10. ROLE OF MBFR IN US POLICY: ROTH SAID HE REMAINS UNCLEAR OVER THE ULTIMATE PURPOSE (VICE TACTICS) OF MBFR IN US POLICY TOWARD EUROPE. BUT SINCE HE SUSPECTS THESE LONG RANGE CONSIDERATIONS HAVE NOT YET BEEN PRECISELY DEFINED AND EXPECTS THE ALLIED DEBATE OVER MBFR SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES WILL INVOLVE A RATHER SEARCHING REVIEW OF BASIC PREMISES CONCERNING THE SOVIET MINITARY THREAT AND ALLIED DEFENSE POLICY (SEPTTEL NOTAL), ROTH SAID THE GERMANS DO NOT INTEND AT PRESENT TO PRESS FOR LONGER RANGE US GOALS.
HILLENBRAND

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